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FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY: West Germany REPORT NO: EGF-485
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PLACE ACQUIRED: Germany, Frankfurt DATE OF REPORT: 31 March 1954
DATE ACQUIRED: 24 March 1954 REFERENCES:
SOURCE: SOURCE EVALUATION APPRAISAL OF CONTENT: German Air Force veteran (B).
Appraisal of Content: 2.

1. During Hans Ulrich Rudel's current visit to Germany he has indicated that he will return to West Germany for good in May or June in order to campaign against current rearmament plans. He intends to make anti-EDG speeches before reunions of Air Force veterans. In addition, he will attempt to organize a charity for the relief of needy German Air Force veterans, thus enabling impoverished ex-fliers to resist economic pressures which might otherwise force them to enlist in the projected German EDG air contingent. This work has already begun on a small scale. (Dr. Werner Neumann will assist in these efforts, "unofficially" if the Federal Government bans his overt activities.
2. While in Germany, Rudel has expressed the opinion that soldiers should avoid participation in any Bonn-sponsored rearmament. He has said that the Federal Republic is a passing phase, whose leaders and collaborators will be discarded. Those who would play a role in the future Germany, particularly soldiers, should avoid the taint of involvement in plans of the present regime, he said. National Socialism, he opined, remains the most perfect political idea in the world and will come into its own again.
3. Rudel's talks with ex-Field Marshals Albert Kesselring and Erich von Manstein and with former General Heinz Guderian have convinced him that the old generals will be useless to the "new" Germany.
4. Rudel departs for Argentina on 31 March via Munich and Zurich, where he will meet an unknown person at Bahnhofstrasse 6.

EVALUATION OF SOURCE: A: Completely Reliable. B: Usually Reliable. C: Fairly Reliable. D: Not Usually Reliable. E: Not Reliable (Applied to Sources of Doubtful Honesty or Loyalty, Regardless of Their Competence). F: Reliability Cannot be Judged (Applied to Untested or Insufficiently Tested Sources).

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT: 1: Confirmed by Other Independent and Reliable Sources. 2: Probably True. 3: Possibly True. 4: Doubtful. 5: Probably False. 6: Cannot be Judged. Documentary: Based on an Original Document.

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~~SUBJECT: Hans-Ulrich RUDEL~~

~~SOURCE: Well-informed observer~~

~~The following represents the list of remarks made by former Colonel Hans-Ulrich RUDEL in a private conversation in Buesseidorf on 22 March 1954.~~

National Socialism remains the most perfect idea in the world and will again come into its own, suitably cleansed of its few failings. The present Federal Republic is but a passing phase and its traitorous leaders and collaborators will be discarded when this phase has passed. It is consequently necessary for those who would play a role in the future Germany to avoid the taint. Above all, soldiers should have nothing to do with the current rearmament effort. He had recently talked to former Field Marshals Albert KESSELRING and Erich von MANSTEIN as well as General Heinz GUDERIAN, and had come to the conclusion that the old generals were useless. KESSELRING had particularly annoyed him by suggesting a parallel between the men of 20 July and TALLEYRAND, who had been a "traitor" to Napoleon but had rendered great services to his country.

RUDEL will depart for Argentina on 31 March but will return to Germany for good in May or June. He plans the following steps in a campaign against present rearmament plans. First, he will appear before large-scale reunions of Luftwaffe veterans and make speeches against EDC. Second, he will attempt to organize a large-scale charity organization to aid needy Luftwaffe veterans and their families (he has already begun such work on a small scale). The primary aims of this activity would be to make it possible for large numbers of needy veterans to resist pressure of economic circumstances, a pressure which might otherwise compel them to seek admission to the projected German air force contingent in EDC. Dr. Werner NAUMANN will undertake the practical organizational work although he may be compelled to do so "unofficially"

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in view of the pending ban to be placed on his activity by the Federal Government.

RUDEL planned to visit Munich and Zurich before his return to Argentina. In Zurich he planned to meet an unnamed person at the address Bahnhofstrasse 6.

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